

shops of same width. The houses in the several squares have all garden ground, the outer, of 1,000 houses, 100 feet deep and 20 feet frontage. There are school-houses on each side of the second square, and baths, reading-rooms, dining-halls, &c., in the spaces between some of the inner squares. At each outer corner of the whole is a fountain, and at each entrance are a couple of towers. All large manufactories using steam-engines would be removed at least half-a-mile beyond the town, as well as abattoirs or slaughtering-houses, cattle-markets, reservoirs of sewerage for manure, cemeteries, hospitals, &c., and there would be in convenient proximity a park promenade, gymnasium, botanic garden, &c., and sites for suburban villas, reserved for such as might desire them. The town, it is proposed, would contain every improvement in position, plan, drainage, ventilation, architecture, supply of water, light, and every other elegance and convenience which art and science will admit of. The number of its inhabitants not to exceed 10,000, and each resident householder to be a shareholder to the extent of 20*l.*, at least, and a subscriber to the rules for its government. The company to be incorporated by Royal Charter, bract of Parliament, under the title of "The Modern Town Association," so as to limit the responsibility of each individual to the share held by him in its stock. Rentals to be regulated by a moderate interest on the actual cost, and the dwellings to be of every gradation of size and scale, so as to have apartments, suites of rooms, and entire houses or mansions, from a rental of 10*l.* per annum up to 300*l.* The capital required to build such a town is computed at 3,000,000*l.*, besides 1,000,000*l.* to stock the farms, factories, and workshops with provisions and materials, &c. sum in all, the author observes, not half that expended on some single railways, nor more than the cost of Westminster Palace and the last new bridge across the Thames—two single structures only. The capital it is proposed to raise in 400,000 shares of 20*l.* each, to be paid up by instalments of 1*l.* a-month into the Bank of England in the name of trustees to be appointed by the shareholders. No member to hold more than 500 shares.

The rules relate, among other matters, to provisions for temperance and peace, the limitation of hours of labour, gratuitous education, law and medicine without individual expense, freedom of religion, &c. The inhabitants are proposed to comprise 1,000 members of the building trades, 600 cabinet-makers, upholsterers, and other furniture-makers, 200 producers of food, 800 producers of materials for clothing, 800 miscellaneous manufacturers, 700 producers of clothing, 300 producers of food, a limited number of keepers of shops or stores of different kinds, 200 officers of education, health, religion, justice, and government, &c. &c.

As to the details of profits, rules as to currency, &c., we cannot enter into these, having already, indeed, overstepped our limits. We must, therefore, refer all who feel an interest in these and numerous other details connected with Mr. Buckington's scheme to the work itself, which is got up in a clear and readable style both by author and publisher, and contains essays, also, on financial reform, on emigration and colonization, on a new reform bill, and on the regeneration of Ireland.

To Cleanse Old Coins.—In reply to a correspondent who asks for a recipe for cleaning old coins, copper, brass, and silver, and says he has a quantity found at Richborough Castle, Kent, we may state, that the red rust may be removed from silver coins by vinegar or by lemon juice; the green by a solution of ammonia; the rust on copper or brass coins should not be disturbed, as a coin which cannot be read when oxidized is seldom improved by being cleaned, but often rendered quite useless; a graver may occasionally be employed, but its safe use presupposes a knowledge of the coin to be operated on, both as to its metal and legend. The Richborough coins, which the writer refers to, would no doubt be thankfully examined by Mr. Roach Smith, who is, we believe, at this moment preparing an extensive catalogue of Roman coins, found at that place, for publication.

AN ACCOUNT OF CONWAY CASTLE.

ONE of the recent excursions made by the British Archaeological Association included a visit to Conway Castle, an interesting remnant of rude times known probably to many of our readers.* Mr. Hicklin, the editor of the *Chester Courant*, gave an account of the castle. He said, in the course of it, that Edward the First having resolved to complete the subjugation of Wales to the English Crown, was naturally anxious to strengthen his power in those places of security where he could best support his authority, by curbing the pride of the barons, who might attempt to thwart his schemes, and by suppressing the revolts of his discontented subjects. Independently of the romantic and picturesque scenery by which the rock of Conway is surrounded, its situation afforded a most advantageous post from which its defenders might observe the slightest indication of any hostile movement: the passes might easily be rendered perfectly inaccessible; and unless treachery was in the garrison, the fortress might be considered impregnable before the use of artillery. The Castle of Conway was completed in 1284, under the personal inspection and direction of King Edward, and Henry de Llanion, the builder of Carnarvon Castle, was the architect employed.

"After size and weight," says an able writer, "the power of architecture may be said to depend upon the quantity of its shadow, and it seems to me that the reality of its works, and the use and influence they have in the daily life of men, as opposed to those works of art with which we have nothing to do but in times of rest or pleasure, require that it should express a kind of human sympathy by a measure of darkness as great as there is in human life; and that as the great poem and great fiction generally affect the most by the majesty of their masses of shade, and cannot hold upon us if they affect a continuance of lyric brightness, but must be serious often, and sometimes melancholy, so they do not express the truth of this wide world of ours, so there must be in this magnificently human art of architecture, some equivalent expressions for the trouble and wrath of life; for its horror and its mystery; and this it can only give by depth or diffusion of gloom, by the brow upon its front, and the shadow of its recess. So that barbarism is a noble feature in architecture, though a false one in painting. But since the thirteenth century, we have built like frogs and mice, except only in our castles, and perhaps Mr. Buckington would add, in our cathedrals. Until our street architecture is designed, until we give it some size and boldness, until we give our windows recess and our walls thickness, I know not how we can lead to our architects for their facilities in more important work; their eyes are trained to narrowness and slightness, can we expect them, at a word, to conceive and

deal with breadth and solidity? They ought not to live in our cities; there is that in their miserable walls which bricks up to death men's imaginations, as surely as ever perished forsworn Nun. An architect should live in cities as little as a painter. Send him to our hills, and let him study there what nature understands by a buttress and what by a dome. There was something in the old power of architecture, which it had from the recluses more than from the citizen. We have sources of power in the imagery of iron coasts and azure hills; of power more pure, nor less serene, than that of the hermit spirit which once lighted with white lines of cloisters the glades of the Alpine pine, and raised into ordered spires the wild rocks of the Norman Sea; which gave to the temple gate the depth and darkness of Elijah's Horeb Cave; and lifted out of the populous city, grey cliffs of lonely stone into the midst of sailing birds and silent air." Mr. Hicklin resumed. The form of the castle is oblong, and it is erected on a high rock at one corner of the triangle which encloses the town. One side is bounded by the river, another by a creek which is full of water at every tide, and into which the river Gyffin flows; the other two sides are within the town walls. On the outside, eight massive and enormous towers, forty feet in diameter, project—four on each side; and there was a winding staircase to the summit of a smaller tower contained in each, which in the four nearest the river issue out to the height of several feet, and form an exceedingly beautiful addition. The summit of these commanded an extensive view of the adjacent country. The walls and towers are embattled, and vary from 12 to 15 feet in thickness. The principal entrance was from the town at the west end by a drawbridge over a very deep moat; this led to the ascent of a few steps to a spacious terrace, protected by five small towers, and intermediate walls; thence through a gateway, defended by a portcullis, to the larger court. The portion of the south side of the noble hall, which was 100 feet long, 32 wide, and of a proportionate height, about 30 feet: out of this was projected out at the east end, a chapel with a large window. The roof was supported by eight fine Gothic arches, four of which still remain; one fell about 44 years ago; it was warmed by a great fire-place at one end, and two others, one on each side; there are six windows to the country, and three large ones to the court; underneath were the numerous vaults which contained the munitions for the use of the garrison, and also the stores for provisions. At the east end of this room is the reservoir, 15 feet in diameter, and so deep, the water which supplied it is traditionally reported to have been conveyed in pipes from a well above Tywyn. The entrance into the inner court is by a passage through a strong wall, 10 feet and a half in thickness, which on the outside has a large iron grating, who could see through a trap-hole every one coming from the chief gateway. On the right in this court is one of the main rooms, 29 feet by 25 feet: a beautiful arch, which supported the roof remains perfect, a second arch having been destroyed; this window looks into the court. Between this room and the tower of the king's tower, was the king's chamber, which communicated with that of the queen and the opposite side. The north tower is called the y crenellars, or the queen's tower, and the room on the first story contains a recess taken out of the wall, which is the only place with any appearance of ornament in the castle. It is formed by seven pointed and groined arches uniting with each other at the roof, and under them are more arches, with a basement all round. This recess, which, with the adjoining room, was the queen's private chapel; contained the altar-table; and on both sides are small apertures communicating with two apartments. That such was the use of this place is corroborated by the circumstance, that this is the only room in any of the towers above the ground-floor which does not contain a fireplace. The diameter of the inside of the towers is about 18 feet; these consist generally of two stories, with the ground-floor, which was chiefly used for keeping stores. The king's tower has a strong-room below, which was accessible only by a trap-door; but the keep, or the y crenellars is the second on the

* On the same day they visited the ruins of Flint Castle, and the inhabitants drew attention to the present proposed plan of the latter, and requested the Association to add them to their list of places to be visited. The Association decided that the ruins of the castle in question are so situated that this venerable site should at least be protected from further mutilation and abuse. The castle is supposed to have been erected by Edward the First, and is celebrated as being the place where the first step was taken towards the overthrow of the unfortunate monarch, Richard the Second. Several places in the vicinity of Flint indicate, by their English names, that they were formerly places where operations were carried on connected with the lead trade, such as Lead Brook, &c., these places being called Leadbrook, &c., in a Charter of Edward the First. In a notice of the borough of Flint in the *Illustrated London News*, it was thought highly probable that the town of Flint was derived from the fact of its being first mentioned in Flint, as a place where formerly lead was mined, and the present town built on the ruins of the old town. The mineral that is a component part of all kinds of glass, there is no reason to suppose that this term should be applied solely as indicative of that description which is manufactured by the aid of lead, whilst, on the other hand, it is highly probable that the first locality for that branch of the glass manufacture would be at a spot where the lead required for its formation could be obtained in abundance, particularly as in addition to the raw materials, the vicinity of Flint has abounded in iron, which is a material which is applied to the manufacture of glass. One day was given by the Association to Liverpool, and although we have not attempted to give a registered account of all the proceedings, we must not omit to mention the admirable manner in which the members were guided and entertained by the Corporation and inhabitants. So far as we know, neither the Association nor the "Illustrated London News" have before given particulars of the visit. When Mr. Buckington, on entering from the hands of the Mayor a bowl to present to Lord Albert Conway in memory of the visit, drank, under a happy inspiration, "Bottoms to the good old town of Liverpool, and the beautiful river," he expressed the feeling of the moment of every visitor present. We were glad to find some of the Liverpool residents in the land